



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Released: November 20, 2009

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October Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 25,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of October 11-17, 2009, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Hired workers worked an average of 45.0 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$10.05 per hour.

Nationally, farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.91 per hour during the October 2009 reference week, up 21 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.25 per hour, up 20 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.23 per hour compared with \$10.21 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.24 per hour, was up 15 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 39.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 6 percent from a year ago.

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